



# City of Cambridge

O-9

**IN CITY COUNCIL**

November 19, 2018

COUNCILLOR MALLON  
COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI  
VICE MAYOR DEVEREUX  
MAYOR MCGOVERN

- WHEREAS: Telecommunications companies are required to compensate municipalities for their use of public rights of way, and this compensation is used to fund community media centers and local cable channels such as Cambridge Community Television (CCTV) and 22 CityView; and
- WHEREAS: Cambridge signed its initial cable license in 1985, and said license has been renewed in both 2001 and 2011; and
- WHEREAS: The current license agreement requires Comcast to pay the City franchise fees equaling 5% of its gross revenues in Cambridge, and this agreement expires in 2021; and
- WHEREAS: The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has proposed a new rule that would allow telecommunications companies like Comcast to deduct any in kind services provided to the City from the required amount to be paid by its licensing fee; and
- WHEREAS: This new fee structure would pose a great threat to CCTV and 22 CityView, which have been pillars of the community, keeping the public informed about municipal government, City events, and local news; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work with CCTV and all other appropriate departments to ensure funding for this vital municipal service; and be it further
- ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on this matter; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to members of the Cambridge Congressional Delegation on behalf of the entire City Council.